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### UM j-school unveils new home

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#### Recommended Citation

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations, "UM j-school unveils new home" (2007).  
*University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present*. 20337.  
<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases/20337>

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**Montana**

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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**CORRECTION:** A previous version of this release listed an incorrect date. The print, photo and radio/television departments have been separated since the Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center's completion in 1985.

May 7, 2007

**Contact:** Rebecca Schiel, Office Manager, UM School of Journalism, 406-243-4001.

### **UM J-SCHOOL UNVEILS NEW HOME**

#### **MISSOULA –**

The doors of Don Anderson Hall will be flung wide Friday, May 11, in a long-awaited dedication ceremony for The University of Montana School of Journalism's new home.

From an open swath of grass first overturned with silver-plated shovels three years ago to a five-story, 57,000-square-foot behemoth, Anderson Hall has risen swiftly under the auspices of journalism school Dean Jerry Brown, who spearheaded the project.

"I'm generally stunned by the beauty of it," he said.

Festivities will begin at 2 p.m. in front of the building and include speakers from the journalism school, UM President George Dennison, Missoula Mayor John Engen and others. After the formal presentations, the building will open for the public to tour, with journalism faculty acting as docents.

Don Anderson, for whom the building is named, is best known for organizing the Lee Enterprises purchase of a number of Montana newspapers from the Anaconda Copper Mining Company. His obituary in 1978 referred to him as the "Abraham Lincoln of Montana journalism" for his work in liberating Montana papers from their corporate stranglehold.

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The \$14 million building was primarily funded by about 200 donors, Brown said, with significant contributions coming from Anderson's daughter and son-in-law, Sue and John Talbot of Missoula. John Talbot, former publisher of the Missoulian, was also a Lee colleague of Anderson's, as was Lloyd Schermer, a former president of Lee Enterprises. He and his wife, Betty, who now live in Aspen, Colorado, gave the largest personal contribution to the building.

The Pollner family, known for supporting an endowed visiting professorship each year in honor of their late son, T. Anthony Pollner, made a gift for a suite of offices for the Montana Kaimin in his memory.

The building was a top priority of the University's historic \$100 million campaign, "Invest in Discovery."

Anderson Hall will bring the print, photo and radio/television departments of the school back under the same roof for the first time in more than 20 years, a crucial move because of the increasingly multimedia nature of the industry, Brown said.

Multi-million dollar facility or not, Brown insists the school will differ little from its beginning in Army surplus tents almost 100 years ago.

"The mission hasn't changed since 1914," he says. "We don't want to become a school of delivery systems – this is a place for journalists to know their place in democracy."

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